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# CONTENTS

Opening .....	4
Student Life .....	14
Academics .....	76
Beauties .....	132
Organizations .....	142
Greeks .....	210
Sports .....	294
Classes .....	382
Closing .....	486

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# Competition: The Challenge of Ma Tech

Competitive — what other word better describes the atmosphere of Georgia Tech. From the time of the first calculus class to that last graduation party, the intensity and feeling of Tech is embodied in competition. The school presents a challenge — daring you to get a higher grade, to win in intramurals, to participate in clubs. The “Tech Experience” has led to our reputation for turning out the best damn engineers in the country.

The road toward graduation is not easy — Ma Tech makes sure you earn the right to call

yourself a Ramblin Reck. When you’ve got five tests, a date, a football game, and two labs due within the week, the challenge comes not from other people but from within. Being competitive is a matter of survival.

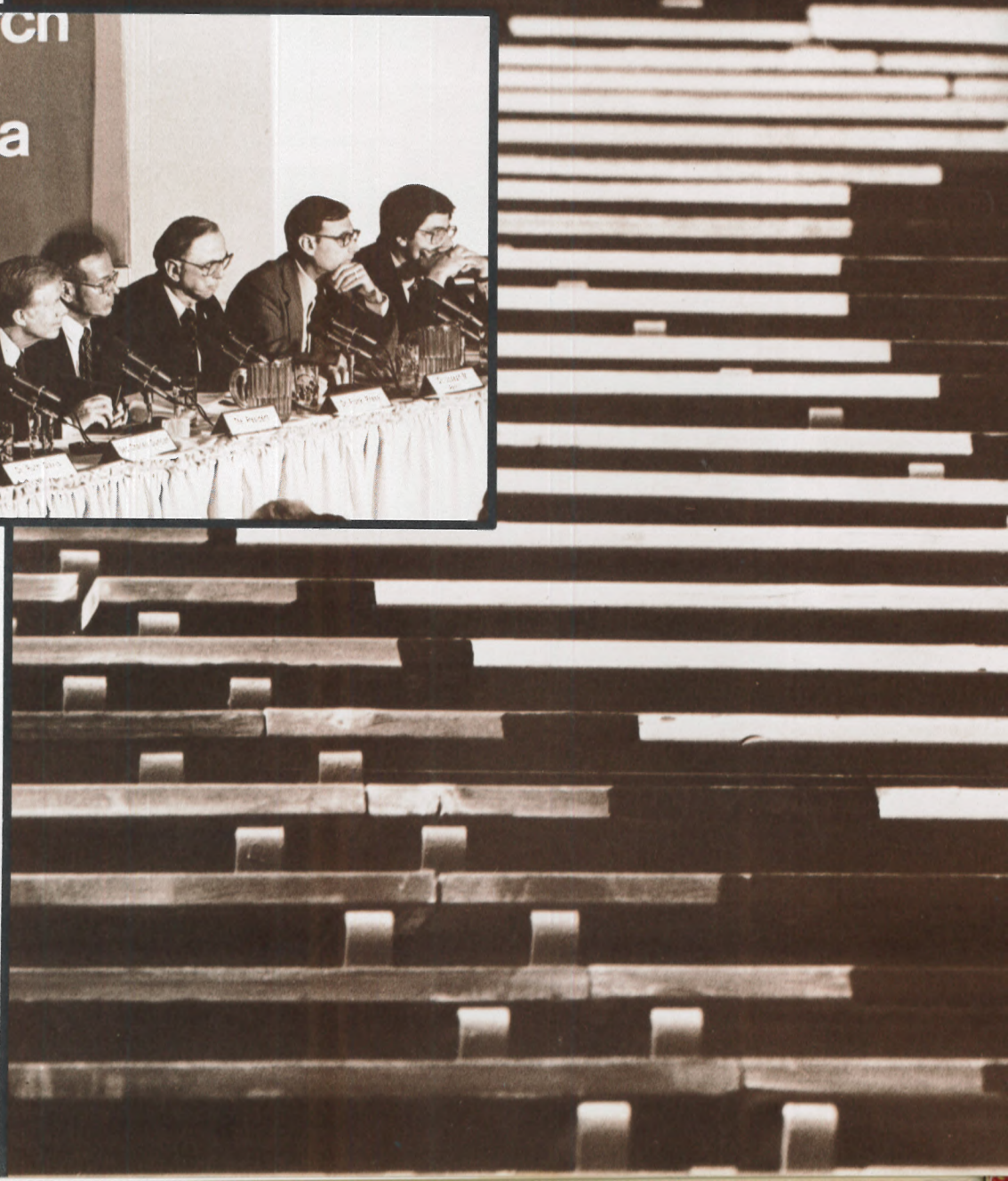
The spirit of competition is everywhere: athletically, academically, and socially. From a Greek Week Tug of War to the game against the ‘Dogs, the challenge is to do better than anyone. At Tech there are no losers — no matter who scores the highest, the competition makes the Tech student better.





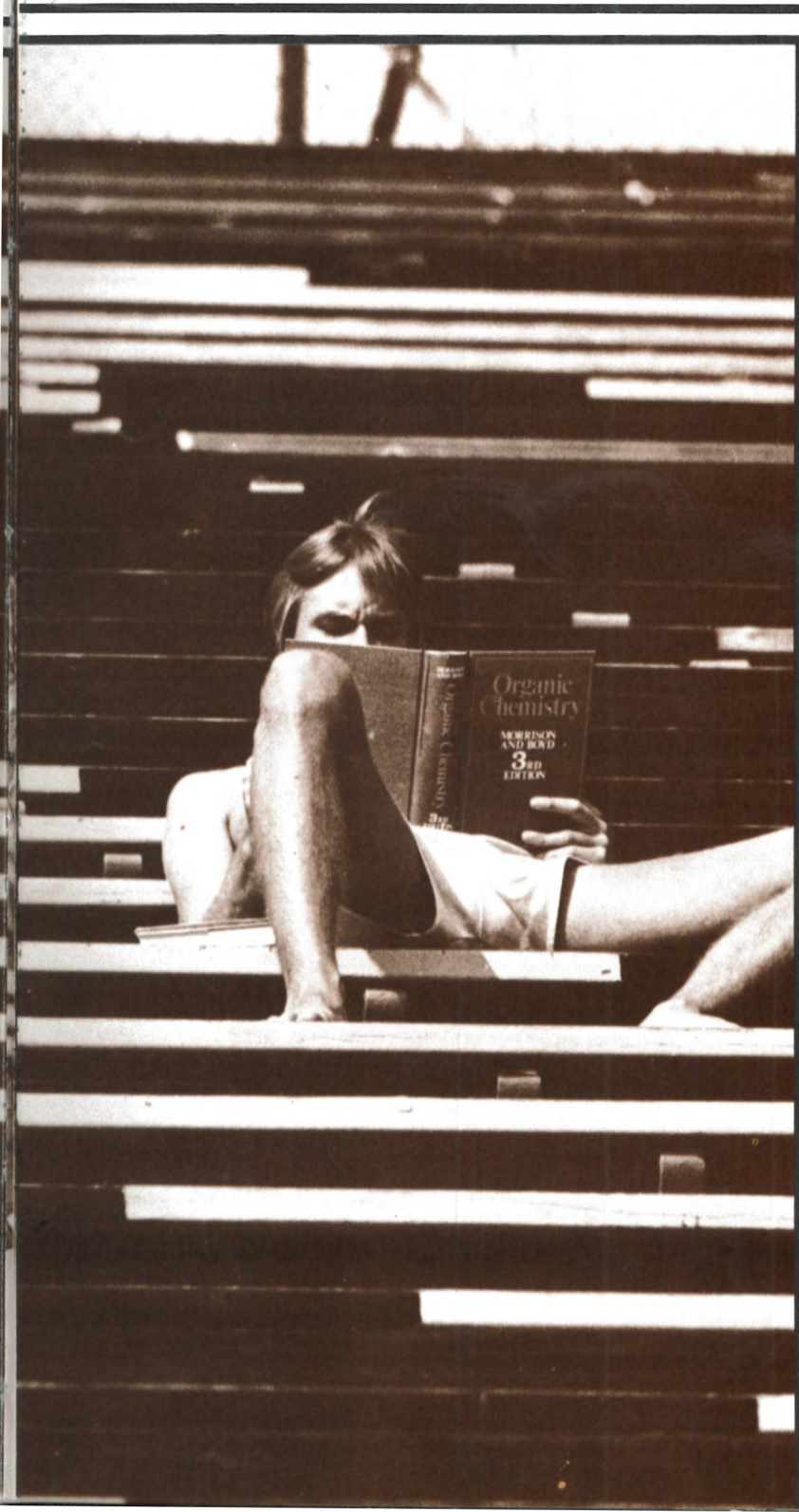








## In Search of the Mighty GPA



Across the country Georgia Tech is known as an academic pressure cooker — survival of the four year grind qualifies Tech students to handle anything thrown their way. We are barraged with tests, labs, homework, projects and term papers; busting your ass is the only way to get through it all.

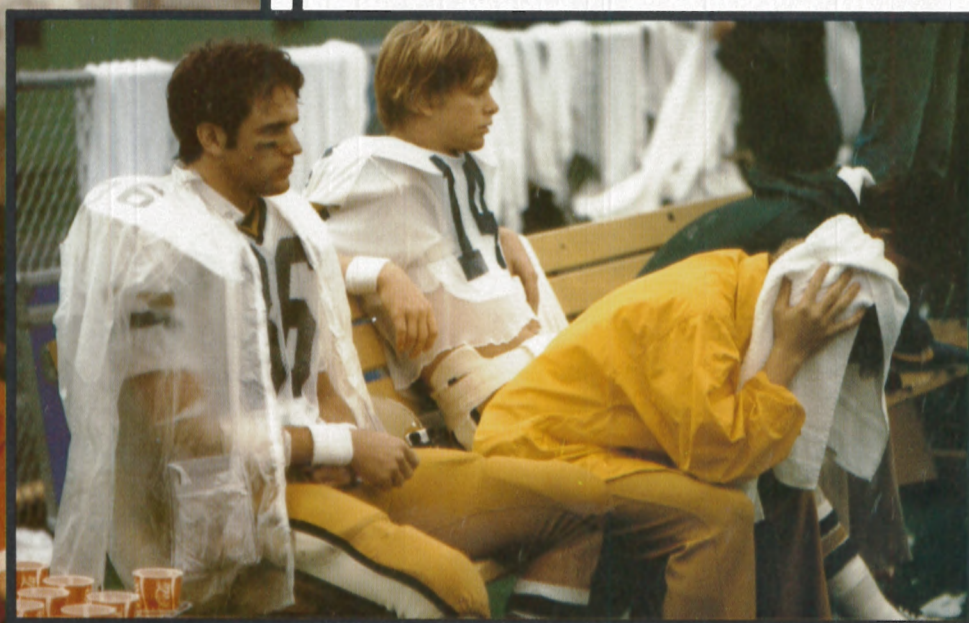
Sometimes it seems the only measure of your human worth at Georgia Tech is your GPA. “What’s your GPA?” pops up in conversation as often as talk of the latest party. No one is ever satisfied with what they have and we are constantly resolving and devising methods to bring our GPA’s up. All quarter we study, nerd and cram to get just one grade higher. By multiplying this effort by over 11,000 students it’s easy to visualize the competitive atmosphere that exists. On the GPA hangs everything, a good job offer, election in honoraries, success with women and extra money from home.



## The Sports We Play, We Play to Win







To many students, competition is manifested on the playing field or on the courts. These arenas are now more challenging than ever with Tech's entrance into the Atlantic Coast Conference: new rivals were developed, tougher teams needed to be beat, and new league championships had to be won. Sure, there were times when we lost, but it made us appreciate the joy of winning more.

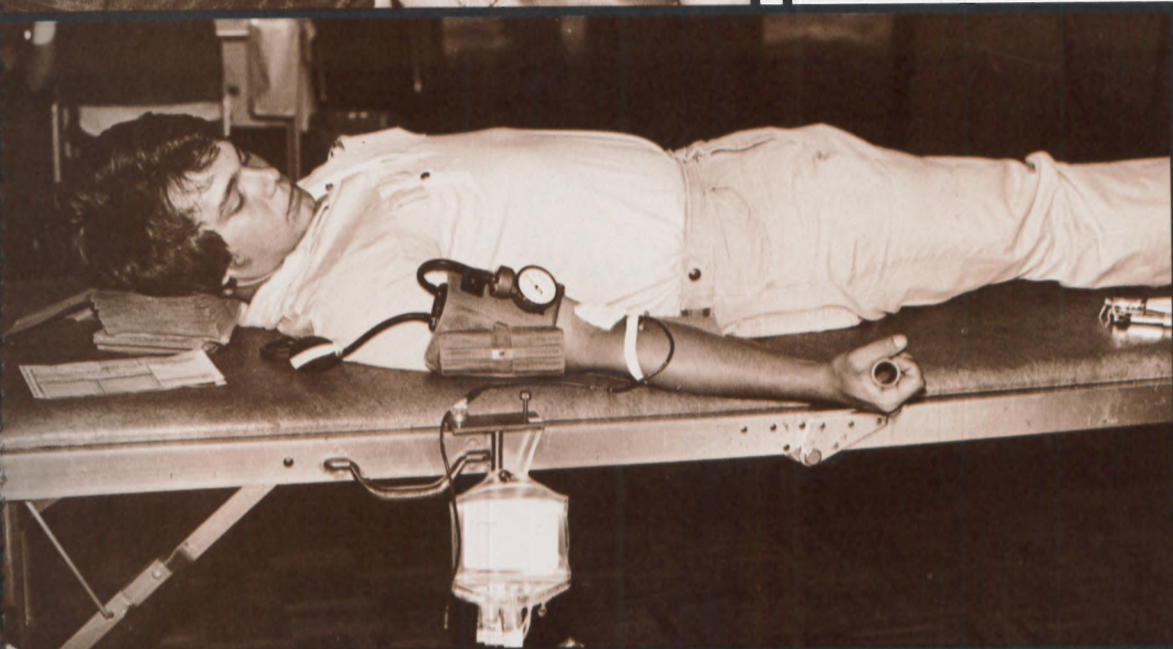
While the winning tradition in sports dates back to the days of Heisman and Dodd, the Tech student refuses to be merely content with just sitting back and watching. To them, athletic competition is intramurals. Whether it's football, softball, ultimate frisbee, or street hockey, one thing is for certain — the Tech man always plays to win.



## Favorite Pastimes Supply Pleasant Challenges







Outside of the classroom and off the playing field, the challenges of Tech still persist. First, there's dating — the guys try to find the few women on campus and the women compete for the good-looking guys. Considering Tech's male to female ratio, getting a date is sometimes the greatest accomplishment of all.

On campus, the student body turns out strong to meet a challenge. When the Red Cross needs 400 pints of blood, it gets 500 from Georgia Tech. Competitions with other schools yield new technologies, such as SCORE'S hydrogen car, and seniors turn out in mass to compete for that all important "megabucks" job offer, which somehow seems to make it all worthwhile.



## The Tassel Is Worth the Hassle

Four years of meeting challenges and it's finally here. Entering as a naive freshman unaware of what really lies ahead, students look forward to the magic day when he can thrust the sheepskin high in the air, proud to say, "I made it." For some, there was the easy way out — parachuting right out of school. For others the pressure was hard to adjust to. For most, the competition was welcomed as a chance to better themselves. Fighting for a parking space or pulling an all-nighter to finish a senior design project, the spirit of competition intensified the feeling of the "Tech Experience." We may moan and groan about the obstacles stacked before us, but in the long run the *stay was more than worth it.*

